

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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State of Nebraska, Douglas county, ss. I, George H. Trenchard, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, depose that the actual number of full and complete copies printed during the month of January, 1898, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Date, Copies. Rows for Jan 1-31, showing daily circulation figures.

Total number of copies printed, 10,000. Total number of copies distributed, 8,000. Total number of copies on hand, 2,000.

The "triple appeal to slaves' friends" reads as if the authors had all followed the same model.

If Omaha had only a few more great men it might furnish militia companies to complete a whole regiment of the national guard.

Railroad managers ought to know that the boycott is a dangerous thing for them to play with. A two-edged instrument can cut both ways.

Those poperaic appeals for continued fusion seem to have been launched upon the public at an inopportune time. In all emergencies patriotism overflows.

All hall King Corn shouted an enthusiastic delegate to the corn convention in Chicago. A real corn farmer would never mention hall in connection with the corn crop.

The Bee's facilities for presenting the fullest and most accurate news of an all-absorbing event like the wreck of the war ship Maine are not approached by any other newspaper between Chicago and the Pacific coast.

The mob has ceased to greet Zola with the accustomed number of jeers, but the standing of France among nations is not any higher than it was a few days ago.

We believe we are justified in announcing that the original model of the war ship Maine will be part of the government exhibit at the Transmississippi Exposition and inviting every one to come to Omaha next summer to inspect it.

South Dakota republicans can lay in some hot shot for the fusion forces by simply filling their scrap books with clippings showing what the "reformers" have been saying about each other since they were entrusted with the reform business of the state.

The searchlight of publicity is as essential to the exposition as it is to the city, county and state governments. The certainty of the exposure of wrongdoing is the best safeguard the public can have of reasonable diligence and honest work by public officials.

As we have before remarked, if the attorney general comes out as well with the Bartley bond suit as the city attorney did with the Bohn bond suit he will have reason to feel satisfied. In this matter the poperaic attorney has good precedent to assist him.

Bryan is out with a list of nine reasons why everybody opposed to republicans having the offices should get together and make common cause against the despised enemy. He discreetly omitted the tenth and controlling reason, namely, "Because we want the offices."

Several of the Lincoln day orators referred to the fact that Abraham Lincoln was a strong partisan all his life, and he was not less the patriot for all that. He never advocated the surrender of principles to any scheme of fusion for patronage only.

Having cleared himself of the accusation of having tried to be a poet, Mr. J. Sterling Morton is in a position to devote his entire attention to that new opera house and the newspaper he is going to start. In both these enterprises he can make good use of all the free advertising received.

Every day's nearer approach of the exposition emphasizes the need of improved passenger depot facilities. While the new Burlington depot will accommodate the patrons of that road, it is inadequate to the combined travel of all the Omaha lines. The railroads owe it to Omaha and the general public to provide a commodious and convenient station if only for temporary use during the exposition year.

A call has been issued for a state meeting of republican clubs of Minnesota, to be held March 12, when there is to be thorough reorganization and preparation for the coming campaign. The fact that the national convention of clubs is to be held this year in Omaha is of great help to the club members in all the western states. The renewed interest in the work reported already from many directions is a good sign.

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If the policy of limiting suffrage in any large number of states is enforced upon a serious problem will be thus forced upon the congress that makes the next apportionment of representatives among the states. It is made the duty of congress to reduce the representation of any state that denies suffrage to any class of citizens, the reduction to be in proportion to the extent of the disfranchisement. If southern states persist in limiting the suffrage they should not object to the enforcement of the provision of the federal constitution that limits the exercise of the utmost diligence to prevent unlawful expeditions leaving our shores for Cuba, the Spanish government and people still believe that they have been derelict in this respect. There is no doubt that De Lome voiced a very general sentiment among Spaniards in his letter to Canalejas and the duplicity which that communication disclosed illustrated a common phase of Spanish character.

In view of all this it will be most natural for Americans to be somewhat incredulous in regard to the sincerity of the expressions of sympathy and condolence that have come so freely from Spain in connection with the Maine disaster. Americans will naturally ask themselves whether a people who have long been intensely hostile to everything American and whose hatred of this country was intensified by our sending a war ship to Havana, can sincerely regret the catastrophe which submerged the Maine in Cuban waters and sent more than 250 American seamen to untimely death. But as a generous and fair-minded people, whatever we may think as to the sincerity of Spanish expressions of sympathy and regret we cannot fail to appreciate the prompt action of the Spanish authorities at Havana and at Madrid in making every possible provision for the care of the survivors of the disaster. There was nothing perfidious or half-hearted in this and it is not the least to be commended because dictated by a feeling of common humanity. The consideration shown for the survivors of the ill-fated battleship was all that could have been asked or expected of the most friendly people and acknowledgment of this should and undoubtedly will be made by our government in a way that will show it is most fully and sincerely appreciated.

There appears to be no reason to apprehend that this most unfortunate occurrence will affect the relations between the United States and Spain. Even if it should be conclusively demonstrated that the explosion was caused by an outside agency it would probably be impossible to show any responsibility on the part of the Spanish authorities at Havana and unless this were shown beyond all possible doubt we should not have ground for holding Spain responsible. At all events, however, the probability is that the disaster will be found to have been accidental.

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LIMITING THE SUFFRAGE. Before the convention now in session gets through revising the suffrage and election clauses of the Louisiana constitution the doctrine of manhood suffrage is likely to receive another rule blow. The political party to which all its members except one belong is pledged to such revision as will in effect disfranchise the majority of the colored voters of the state. That, indeed, is the avowed purpose of the revision. This will be done by a so-called educational test, from which the illiterate white population in New Orleans and in the Acadian provinces will find a loophole in a provision enabling property owners, however illiterate, to exercise the suffrage. Judging by the returns for members of the constitutional convention it is by no means certain that a majority of the present voters of the state favor restriction of the right of suffrage. There are at least 200,000 voters in Louisiana, but only 43,756 voted on the proposition for a constitutional convention, of which 36,178 were in favor of it. If the convention accomplishes its purpose nearly half the voters of the state will be disfranchised and the white vote will outnumber the negro vote four to one. This method of eliminating the colored

SPANISH SYMPATHY.

It is well understood that the Spanish people generally do not feel friendly toward the American people. There are men in Spain like Castellar—broad and liberal-minded men—who undoubtedly entertain a kindly feeling for this country. They are the Spanish republicans who admire our political institutions, who recognize the influence of the United States in promoting the cause of popular government throughout the world and who recognize and appreciate what this republic has done for the advancement of civilization. These men, however, constitute but a small element of the Spanish people and one that does not exert, at least at present, a very great influence upon popular sentiment in Spain. The great majority have a hearty hatred of America. They hold this country responsible for the insurrections in Cuba and for the prolongation of the existing conflict in that island. This is shown in the utterances of the Spanish press and indeed in diplomatic correspondence. Notwithstanding the assurances which have been given by this government of the exercise of the utmost diligence to prevent unlawful expeditions leaving our shores for Cuba, the Spanish government and people still believe that they have been derelict in this respect. There is no doubt that De Lome voiced a very general sentiment among Spaniards in his letter to Canalejas and the duplicity which that communication disclosed illustrated a common phase of Spanish character.

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NEW INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS.

Remarkable Demand for American Machinery in Europe. Philadelphia Record. Foreign orders for American machinery are not only increasing in magnitude, but are broadening in scope. Certain types of machinery, such as large and heavy iron planing machines and lathes, which American makers have never expected to ship abroad, are now being ordered by European customers. The strangest feature, perhaps, is that large lathes are actually going to England. Sending American lathes to England seems almost incredible to those familiar with the subject, and suggests a new version of the old adage of carrying coals to Newcastle. The Iron Age of February 19 contains a long list of recent foreign orders for machinery. It specially mentions orders for lathes and drills for railroad repair shops in London. An American heavy-duty lathe for working brass ordered by one of the largest builders of brass and iron fittings in England who are heavy contractors to the British admiralty. New York agents of a western machine tool concern report orders for a 24-foot by 24-inch engine lathe, and a 60-inch boring and turning mill with two leads. These big machine tools, which Baltimore house has received a number of foreign orders for machine tools, and this firm has just shipped five large iron planing machines to Brisbane. Another foreign transaction, which goes to an eastern concern, will comprise several carloads of lathes, planers, drills, etc. So the list continues and it includes many foreign countries and a great variety of machinery, from locomotives down to laundry mangles. The exportation of raw pig iron from southern states is also increasing, and the present production is unprecedented. In 1897 the furnaces of Alabama and Tennessee shipped over 1,119,000 tons of pig iron, or nearly 100,000 tons of cast iron pipe. "Reprim!" is bound to become the war cry in Europe now that our pig iron has become a permanent conquest. Signs are not lacking of concerted efforts already being made to exclude our manufactured products. A recent Washington dispatch says that when they considered the clearest exhibition of the real extent of American competition in Europe that has ever been presented officially probably is that of a report to the State department from Frank Mason, United States consul general at Frankfurt, and published in the daily consular reports. Mr. Mason treats the subject candidly, but finds the main points of his thesis directly under his own observation in Germany, where the struggle is now most bitter. He recounts various instances of the kind, and others that are now before European governments, looking to co-operation in resistance to the encroachment of American goods and manufactures on European markets, but concludes that as to food certainly there can be no successful combination to make the cost greater, notwithstanding the strong national agitation in Germany. America has been making inroads in Europe beyond the common knowledge, and Mr. Mason points out instances in which we have overwhelmed our opposition, and says that, in spite of the teachings of European economists in those lines, the scepter of industrial production in the highest wages has passed from the old world to the new. Shoes, steel and iron in various forms, mining and electrical machinery, bicycles, sewing machines, lathes and other machinery, and tools he specially mentions as articles with which we compete successfully against Europe.

The new economic system has even been evolved in this country in the development of the great industries which have completely changed the status quo in almost all branches of manufacture. European nations must sooner or later recognize these new conditions and realize that commercial success cannot properly be based on a country which can furnish the best products at the lowest prices. This is an irrefragable law of trade all the world over.

The Illinois Steel company for the calendar year 1897 states: "There has been during the year just closed the largest production of iron and steel in the history of the United States. For many years American manufacturers attempted to do business on the basis of large profits for comparatively small tonnage, but they have been driven to this condition of affairs, and it seems to have been demonstrated that for the future the policy of small profits on large tonnage must be the best assurance of success." This is the modern industrial philosophy in a nutshell. It was recently stated by an expert metallurgist that the prospect of saving in cost in the production of a ton of pig iron or steel will often cause progressive manufacturers to cast aside costly machinery and expend thousands of dollars on new appliances. A saving so apparently trifling amounts to a large sum on the total output, and often determines whether a profit or loss shall be declared on a year's business. Some time ago we recorded a shrewd observation of a visiting French engineer regarding the value of small economies in the large industrial establishments of this country. He stated that he had reason to believe that the profits were made sometimes from small savings in the details of manufacture, which were elsewhere neglected, and that this accounted for the comparatively low price at which some standard articles are sold notwithstanding the comparatively high wages paid in this country.

The iron and steel manufacturers were years ago the most unanimous body of industrialists in the country, individuals often carried their views to the verge of fanaticism. But since they have inaugurated the new industrial system, and have perceived the great advantage of broad markets and enlarged output rendered possible thereby, there has been an extreme breaking down of the barriers of prejudice. The Dingy tariff bill there were presented to the astonished eyes of the country some strange sights. Deputations of iron manufacturers, many of them members of the Tariff League, appeared before the committee to plead for free iron and low duties on manufacturers of iron and steel. The tariff will surely come when the manufacturers of this country will as a class be found in favor of free trade and free labor—in fact, industrial freedom.

UNION LABEL LAWS. Sweeping Decision Against Them in New Jersey. Chicago Post. A sweeping decision against the constitutionality of laws granting labor unions the exclusive use of labels on union made goods has just been rendered by Vice Chancellor Stevens of New Jersey. The reasoning is certain to compel attention, and the progress of the case in the higher courts will be watched with interest and concern.

It appears that two hat-makers' unions brought an action to prevent certain firms from using on hats made by them a fac simile of the recognized hat-makers' union label. The demand occurred to the complainant, and the demurrer has been sustained on the ground that the New Jersey label law is unconstitutional. The argument of the court is as follows: The right to a label is a property right and of value. Prior to the passage of the act which gave the quality of property to the use of union labels the right of property in a label could only be asserted by those who owned or dealt in the goods to which it was applied. There is no relation between the use of a label and the ownership of any particular commodity. The use of a label is a species of property in itself. It is doubtless within the power of the legislature to create such a property right, but it must be created for all alike. The law of New Jersey gives it only to associations or unions of workmen. It does not embrace other associations and combinations. Hence it

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MISSOURI'S PROPOSED EXHIBIT. Nothing should be allowed to prevent the state of Missouri from making an exhibition at Omaha, and the finest state exhibition here at that. The opportunity is afforded at Omaha because she has more to sell in the west than any other state, and at exceedingly low rates. It would be poor business policy to let the chance go by. Missouri is in the field for business and emigration from the other transmississippi states. Missouri is the storehouse of that region for many products. It is the great mineral state, lumber state and fruit state, and should produce the evidence to that effect at Omaha. Kansas City should be represented at Omaha because she has more to sell in the territory covered by the Omaha exposition than any other city save St. Louis, and it is quite certain that St. Louis will be there. Much good work has already been done on behalf of Missouri at Omaha. Whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well. A \$50,000—a sum which may be raised in a day without Missouri's knowledge, and which is shared between her and a chance to hang her banner on the outer wall.

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